

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 00305 201346Z

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ACTION CU-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL,, PFOR, SG, NO

SUBJ: EUROPEAN YOUTH SECURITY CONFERENCE

REFS: BONN 765(NOTAL), WARSAW 250 (NOTAL), OSLO 53 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. NORWEGIAN PARTICIPANTS REPORT THAT ONLY
CONCLUSION REACHED BY OSLO PREPARATORY MEETING FOR
WARSAW EUROPEAN YOUTH SECURITY CONFERENCE WAS THAT
ALL THOSE INVITED TO OSLO WILL MEET AGAIN IN SOFIA IN
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PAGE 02 OSLO 00305 201346Z

MARCH OR APRIL. DECISIONS HAD TO BE TAKEN "BY CONSENSUS"

(IN EFFECT UNANIMOUSLY), AS DECISIONS PRESUMABLY WILL BE AT WARSAW, AND COMMUNIST BLOC (WFDY) WAS UNABLE TO AGREE INTERNALLY DUE TO WRANGLING BETWEEN FRENCH AND ITALIAN COMMUNISTS SUPPORTED BY RUMANIANS, ON THE ONE HAND, AND REST OF WFDY ON THE OTHER. QUESTION OF AMERICAN PARTICIPATION NEVER CAME UP, BUT BILATERAL AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS MADE IT CLEAR THAT LIKELY FORMULA WILL BE INVITATION TO USYC TO REPRESENT NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT AS OBSERVER, WHICH WOULD GIVE IT ALL RIGHTS AFFORDED FULL PARTICIPANTS EXCEPT VETO. NORWEGIANS RECOMMENDED AMERICAN CONTINUE LOBBYING EFFORTS AND ASKED IF AMERICANS PLANNED ANOTHER TOUR IN EUROPE. END SUMMARY.

1. BERNT BULL, PRESIDENT YOUTH WORK, AND CARL JOHAN SVERDRUP, ITS SECRETARY GENERAL, JOINTED PART OF TIME BY BJORN J. HANSEN OF CENYC, TOLD LABATT JAN 16 THAT MEETING REACHED NO CONCLUSION DUE TO LACK OF CONSENSUS, AND QUESTION OF AMERICAN OR OTHER ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION WAS NOT EVEN RAISED. MEETING LASTED ALL NIGHT ON LAST DAY AND BROKE UP ONLY WHEN BUSSES LEFT FOR AIRPORT.

2. MEETING WAS DEADLOCKED BY INTERNAL DISPUTE IN COMMUNIST WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH (WFDY) AND THE RESULTING INABILITY TO REACH CONSENSUS IN WFDY OR MEETING AS A WHOLE. FRENCH AND ITALIAN COMMUNIST REPRESENTATIVES, BACKED BY RUMANIAN AND APPLAUDED VIGOROUSLY EXTERNALLY BY YUGOSLAVS, REFUSED TO AGREE TO ANYTHING UNLESS THEIR FORMULA FOR ATTENDANCE WAS APPROVED. FRENCH-ITALIAN PROPOSAL WAS THAT EACH INVITED YOUTH ORGANIZATION IN EACH COUNTRY SHOULD ITSELF DECIDE WHETHER TO BE REPRESENTED BY ITS INTERNATIONAL, ITS NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL, OR TO PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY ON ITS OWN. THEY REFUSED TO ACCEPT A COMPROMISE PROPOSED BY WEST AND ACCEPTED BY REST OF WFDY THAT ALL ORGANIZATIONS BE GUARANTEED RIGHT TO ATTEND AND SPEAK, EVEN AGAINST WISHES OF NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OR INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTING THEM. FRENCH AND ITALIAN COMMUNISTS INSISTED THAT EACH ORGANIZATION SHOULD ALSO HAVE VETO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OSLO 00305 201346Z

RIGHT. BULL AND SVERDRUP COMMENTED THAT ANARCHY WOULD BE RESULT.

3. ACTUALLY, SAID HANSEN AND THE OTHERS, EVERYONE ELSE WAS PREPARED TO AGREE TO THE RAFT CONCLUSIONS WORKED OUT IN COMMITTEE. PARTICULARLY IRRITATING TO NORWEGIANS AND OTHER WEST EUROPEANS, ACCORDING TO BULL AN SVERDRUP, WAS INABILITY TO GET CONSENSUS ON THE

AGENDA. WFDY AND CENYC WERE AGREED IN COMMITTEE AND SOVIETS HAS ASSURED THAT WFDY WOULD GO ALONG, BUT FRENCH AND ITALIANS WOULDN'T AGREE TO ANYTHING AT ALL UNTIL THEIR PRINCIPLES FOR ATTENDANCE WERE ACCEPTED. EFDY WAS MUCH LESS INSISTENT ON A FIXED AGENDA WELL AHEAD OF TIME AND THUS LESS UPSET THAT FRENCH AND ITALIAN INTRANSIGENCE PREVENTED AGREEMENT ON THIS POINT. BULL AND SVERDRUP SAID SOFIA MEETING WOULD HAVE REACH AGREEMENT OR THE WHOLE WARSAW CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO BE SCRATCHED. HANSEN WAS MORE OPTIMISTIC, MORE IMPRESSED WITH NEAR UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WITHIN DRAFTING COMMITTEE (ON WHICH HE SERVED) AND CERTAIN CONFERENCE WOULD ACTUALLY OCCUR. HE SAID HE THOUGHT SOFIA MEETING WOULD BE HELD IN MARCH, RATHER THAN APRIL (IT HAD APPRENTLY BEEN SUGGESTED FOR EASTER WEEK, WHEN ALL NORWEGIANS ARE ON HOLIDAY SKIING).

4. BULL AND SVERDRUP SAID THAT WFDY STRETCHED CONSENSUS FARTHER THAN WESTERNERS, WHO, IF ONLY ONE MINOR ORGANIZATION REFUSED TO GO ALONG, WOULD "THROW THEM OUT IN THE SNOW". THEY ALSO COMMENTED THAT WFDY DIFFERENCES WERE SOMETHING NEW, DIFFERENT AND VERY INTERESTING FOR WESTERNERS UNACCUSTOMED TO SEEING COMMUNISTS WASHING DIRTY LINEN IN PUBLIC AND ENGAGING IN VERY HEATED DISCUSSIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER IN FRONT OF OUTSIDERS. THEY SAID FRENCH AND ITALIAN MANEUVER WAS OBVIOUSLY DIRECTED MORE AT RELATIONS BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES AND PROSPECTIVE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES THAN AT INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE RULES PER SE. IN THIS REGARD, THEY SAID, WESTERNERS ARE VERY SYMPATHETIC TO FRENCH, ITALIAN AND RUMANIAN EFFORTS FOR GREATER INDEPENDENCE AND OPENNESS IN COMMUNIST BLOC. HOWEVER, WEST WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 OSLO 00305 201346Z

HAVE TO INSIST THAT WFDY GET ITS INTERNAL HOUSE IN ORDER SO IT CAN REACH CONSENSUS IF THERE IS TO BE FURTHER USEFUL EAST-WEST YOUTH EXCHANGE AND DISCUSSION. A FEW JOKES ABOUT "DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM" WERE EXCHANGED.

5. BULL SAID HE READ ERNIE GREEN'S TELEGRAM TO THE MEETING, AT EVERYONE'S INSISTENCE, BUT THAT IT CAME JUST AFTER A FRENCH SPEECH INSISTING ON VETO RIGHTS FOR EACH ORGANIZATION IN EACH COUNTRY AND SO THE THOUGHT OF EVEN MORE PARTICIPATANTS WITH VETO RIGHTS AROUSED LITTLE ENTHUSIASM AT THAT POINT. ASIDE FROM THAT, THE MEETING AS A WHOLE NEVER GOT AROUND TO DISCUSSING ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS FOR PARTICIPATION (GREEKS, GIRL SCOUTS, EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVE STUDENTS, AMERICANS, ETC). IN BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS,

CONSENSUS WAS OVERWHELMING FOR EXTRA-EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION THROUGH AN OBSERVER DELEGATION OF EACH CONTINENT, WITH US REPRESENTING NORTH AMERICA. USYC AND ACYPL EACH HAVE THEIR VIGOROUS OPPONENTS AMONG WESTERN DELEGATES. (A DANE OPPOSES USYC PARTICULARLY STRONGLY.) WFDY FAVORED OBSERVER STATUS FOR CONTINENTS. BULL SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS PRETTY CERTAIN USYC WOULD GET THE NOD TO REPRESENT NORTH AMERICA AS OBSERVER. HIS ADVICE TO ERNIC GREEN WAS TO LOBBY ACTIVELY WITH THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, HE ASKED IF AMERICANS PLANNED ANOTHER TRIP TO EUROPE. HE AND SVERDRUP ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY NEWS FROM WASHINGTON ON USYC-ACYPL MERGER OR COOPERATION. SVERDRUP AND BULL BOTH ADVISED THAT US SEEK PARTICIPATION AS OBSERVER IN WARSAW, POINTING OUT THAT ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OBSERVER AND FULL PARTICIPANT STATUS IS VETO RIGHT.

6. TOLD THAT POLISH PRESS HAD REPORTED CONCLUSIONS FROM MEETING, BULL AND SVERDRUP FOUND THAT MOST AMUSING. THEY COMMENTED THAT POLE HAD PREPARED REPORT FOR HIS EMBASSY, WHICH HE GAVE THEM JUST AS HE GOT ON BUS TO LEAVE, TELLING THEM TO TEAR IT UP BECAUSE NO CONCLUSIONS WERE REACHED AFTER ALL. THEY ASSUMED POLES MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT CONFERENCE WOULD COME OFF OR HAVE TO BE CANCELLED. HANSEN SAID HE REALLY DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WAS DANGER OF THAT.
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PAGE 05 OSLO 00305 201346Z

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